

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding final Office Action mailed November 16, 2004. Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 1 – 2, 5 – 14 and 21 – 22 remain pending. In particular, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 8, have added claims 21 and 22, and have canceled claims 15 – 20 without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicants have canceled claims 15 - 20 merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these canceled claims in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate the canceled subject matter to the public. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Office Action indicates that claims 1 – 2 and 5 – 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Oran*. With respect to claims 15 – 20, Applicants have canceled these claims and respectfully assert that the rejection of these claims has been rendered moot. With respect to the remaining claims, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As set forth above, Applicants have amended the claims. In this regard, claim 1 has been amended to recite:

1. A method for controlling the presentation of a hierarchical arrangement of items in a window of a graphical user interface, at least one of the items having one or more related sub-items, the method comprising:

displaying the one or more of the related sub-items of one of the items in response to:

moving of a cursor over the one of the items and actuating an input button of a mouse input device as the cursor is located over the one of the items; *and* actuating a virtual button associated with the one of the items;

determining when the cursor is moved over the one of the items; and in response thereto, displaying a first preview window comprising the one or more related sub-items.

(Emphasis Added).

Applicants respectfully assert that *Oran* is legally deficient for the purpose of anticipating claim 1, because at least the features/limitations recited above in claim 1 are not taught or otherwise disclosed by *Oran*. Specifically, claim 1 recites three distinct manners in which the sub-items of an item can be displayed. That is, 1) in response to moving of a cursor over the one of the items and actuating an input button of a mouse input device as the cursor is located over the one of the items; 2) actuating a virtual button associated with the one of the items; and 3) determining when the cursor is moved over the one of the items; and in response thereto, displaying a first preview window comprising the one or more related sub-items. Applicants respectfully assert that none of the cited references teach or otherwise disclose at least this combination of features. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Since claims 2 and 5 - 7 incorporate all the features/limitations of claim 1, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims also are in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 8, that claim has been amended to recite:

8. A system for controlling the presentation of a hierarchical arrangement of items in a window of a graphical user interface, at least one of the items having one or more related sub-items, the system comprising:

logic configured to:

display the one or more of the related sub-items of one of the items in response to:

moving of a cursor over the one of the items and actuating an input button of a mouse input device as the cursor is located over the one of the items, and actuating a virtual button associated with the one of the items;

determine when a cursor is moved over one of the items; and in response thereto, display a first preview window comprising the one or more related sub-items;

a memory comprising an application supporting a graphical user interface and in which the logic is stored;

a display device configured to support the graphical user interface;

a cursor manipulation device configured to cooperate with the application and for manipulating the cursor with respect to the graphical user interface; and

a processing device configured to implement the logic and the application.

(Emphasis Added).

Applicants respectfully assert that *Oran* is legally deficient for the purpose of anticipating claim 8 because at least the features/limitations recited above in claim 8 are not taught or otherwise disclosed by *Oran*. Specifically, claim 8 recites three distinct manners in which the logic is configured to display sub-items of an item. That is, 1) in response to moving of a cursor over the one of the items and actuating an input button of a mouse input device as the cursor is located over the one of the items; 2) actuating a virtual button associated with the one of the items; and 3) determining when the cursor is moved over the one of the items; and in response thereto, displaying a first preview window comprising the one or more related sub-items. Applicants respectfully assert that none of the cited references teach or otherwise disclose at least this combination of features. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 8 is in condition for allowance. Since claims 9 - 14 incorporate

all the features/limitations of claim 8, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims also are in condition for allowance.

Newly Added Claims

Upon entry of the amendments in this response, Applicants have added new claims 21 and 22. Applicants respectfully assert that these claims are in condition for allowance because the cited art, either individually or in combination, does not teach or reasonably suggest all the features/limitations recited in these claims. No new matter has been added.

In this regard, claim 21 recites:

21. A method for controlling the presentation of a hierarchical arrangement of items in a tree-view control window of a graphical user interface, at least one of the items having a related sub-item, the method comprising:

displaying the related sub-item of the one of the items of the tree-view control window in response to:

- 1) actuating an input button of a mouse input device as a cursor is located over the one of the items; and*
- 2) actuating a virtual button associated with the one of the items;*

the method further comprising:

displaying a first preview window comprising the related sub-item in response to determining that the cursor is located over the one of the items.

(Emphasis Added).

Applicants respectfully assert that the cited art is legally deficient for the purpose of rendering claim 21 unpatentable because at least the features/limitations recited above in claim 21 are not taught or reasonably suggested by any or a combination of the references. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 21 is in condition for allowance. Since claim 22 incorporates all the features/limitations of claim 21, Applicants respectfully assert that this claim also is in condition for allowance.

Cited Art of Record

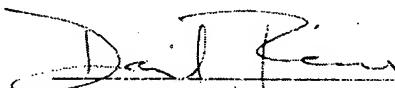
The cited art of record has been considered, but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims.



CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 12/21/04.

Stephanie Riley
Signature